



ALLENDALE HISTORY AND HERITAGE

VOL. V

APRIL 1979

No. 4

NEXT MEETING: Monday, May 7, 1979, 8:30 p.m. at the Allendale Municipal Building, West Crescent Avenue, Allendale.

PROGRAM: A slide presentation by Pat Wardell featuring old views of Allendale. "Allendale's Changing Scene" will visually trace changes in our local landscape during the past 80 years. Featured will be slides from our collection, including some new to our collection this year (made from old photographs donated or lent).

NEWS AND VIEWS: We are most happy to report the success of our second Gilbert & Sullivan production, this year "H.M.S. Pinafore" performed beautifully (as always) by the Ridgewood Gilbert & Sullivan Opera Company.

We again thank the many members and friends who helped with the preparations for and the promotion of this production. Again, three of our members deserve special recognition: Marian Strangfeld and Eva Schmitt for their work in arranging for the event and for their meticulous attention to every detail, and Lucie Kirylak for her superb job of publicity and promotion. We are also grateful to Lucie for arranging with Volkswagen of America free printing of hundreds of advertising fliers and programs for the presentation.

To all our members and friends who made posters beautiful enough to frame, we thank you! And another special thanks to the members of Girl Scout Troup 49, Senior Scouts, who handled the sales of orangeade during intermission.

Last, but far from least, we thank all who helped, all who supported us, and all who bought tickets and attended.

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The nominating committee has prepared the following slate of officers and chairmen for 1979-80:

President: A. Marian Strangfeld
 Vice President: Jeanne Cotz
 Secretary: Audrey Miskowski
 Treasurers: Schuyler and Geneva Keating
 Trustees: Jack Knapp
 Florence Schenk
 Shirley Cross
 Curator-Librarian: Marion Schwack
 Publicity Chairman: Lucie Kirylak
 Membership Chairman: Annette Baum
 Newsletter Editor: Pat Wardell

Additional nominations for any office may be made from the floor, and election of officers and chairmen will take place at our annual meeting on May 7.

We are happy to announce that several of the board members met with the library board last month and we were told at that meeting that the library board would be pleased to grant our request for space to house our collection in the new library. We hope that within the next few months we will be able to catalog many of our materials for use by the public.

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A HISTORY OF ALLENDALE

Compiled by the Allendale Eighth Grade, 1945
under the direction of Willetta R. La Roe

Editor's Note: The 1945 Eighth Grade graduating class compiled this history of Allendale as a class project during the school year 1944-45. The finished history was mimeographed and distributed on a very limited basis. An original copy is in the library at Brookside School. We will reprint it serially in the next few issues.

Members of the 1945 Eighth Grade class who wrote the history were: Joyce Forshay, Evelyn Hudson, Charles Hennessey, Eric Godfrey, Edwin Grosman, John Occhipinti, Kenneth Forshay, Herbert Halpern, Anna Clair Tice, Ruth Fox, Herbert Clarke, Robert Secor, John Otto, Janet Taylor, Grace Trickey, William Hasenbalg, Arthur Mueller, Garry Garabedian, Clark Parkhurst, Eileen Clark, Jean Morgan, Joyce Taylor, Bernice Swing, and Louise Lennox.

Special mention should be made of a very remarkable teacher, Mrs. La Roe, who taught eighth grade classes in Allendale for many years. Every year, Mrs. La Roe formulated a plan for a special project for her class (as this editor can attest from first-hand knowledge) and students could hardly help but get caught up in the enthusiasm of working on a special project that was uniquely theirs.

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This book has been compiled by the 1945 Eighth Grade Graduating Class of the Allendale Grammar School of the State of New Jersey. We have interviewed many, many people toward whom we feel very grateful, and believe this to be an honest chronicle of the early history of our beloved town and of its life during this, the 50th Anniversary of its existance as a borough. We are now in the third year of World War II. Many of our Allendale men-folk are at war (260, to be accurate); while mothers and fathers are working in defense factories. They are all trying to keep Allendale as busy and as fine as we have found it to be in our preparation of this project.

PART I

Early History of Allendale...by Joyce Forshay and Evelyn Hudson

The Indians that lived around Allendale were of the tribe of the Hakensakis which belonged to the Lenni Lenape and they in turn to the Delawares, who belonged to the Algonquin nation. This fact has been proved by the Indian relics Mr. Appert has found on his farm. Undoubtedly other people in town have similar proof.

Allendale was not in the fighting territory during the Revolutionary War. The nearest claim to distinction at that period is the Hermitage at Hohokus, where Aaron Burr courted [Theodosia Prevost].

At first Allendale was only a small settlement belonging to Orvil Township...It had two grocery stores belonging to Winters and Ackerman, a post office (in the grocery store), a hotel, a blacksmith shop, a cider mill, and later a saw mill, grist mill, and a peat mill owned by Albert

Alyea. In 1850 Allendale was named for Mr. Allen, a civil engineer, who laid railroad tracks from Suffern to Paterson. In 1894 Allendale voted to sever connections with the township and become a borough. The first mayor was Peter Rapelje.

Some of the early families of Allendale were Zabriskie, Garrison, Straut, Ackerman, Gamble, Quackenbush, Van Houten, Hopper, Lauback, Carlough, Powell, Wilson, Mallinson, Higgins, Cummings, and Conners.

The old homesteads which still remain are: 1. Garrison; 2. House near nursery (former Nadler house); 3. Taylor's; 4. Archer Home; Tremain Nursery; 6. Powell; 7. Toll House foundation; 8. Asten-Keidel; 9. Parigot; 10. Storms.

The present town government consists of: Mayor--George Christopher; Councilmen--H. K. Schoenheiter, Carl Wehner, John Lothian, A. E. Oster-tag, John Borger, F. J. Burnett.

The population of Allendale is approximately 2,300, with about 600 houses.

At first there were only stone houses, until later when wood was used, and there were only four houses on the turnpike. The first heater was installed in the house where J.B. Taylor lives. That house was also the first house to have spring rollers, now called shades, and also was the place where Sunday School was first held.

PART II

Roads.....by Robert Secor and John Otto

The first road that went through Allendale was the Franklin Turnpike. It was along this road that the stagecoach from Albany to Jersey City ran. At the intersection of Crescent Avenue and the turnpike the little white Toll House stood where toll was collected by the toll keeper to enable the county to obtain money for the repair of the highway. This Toll House was razed several years ago, much to the sorrow of many citizens. Saddle Road (now known as Cottage Place), Crescent Avenue (from Arlt's house toward Ramsey, Crescent Avenue was Masonicus), Garret Smith Road (now known as Forest Road), and Hillside Avenue (which is the back road to Ramsey), were the first local roads of Allendale. Ivers Place, Dale Ave., First Street, Mallinson Street, and New Street were later constructed. The roads were named by the Village Improvement Association.

All roads were dirt until the county made the Franklin Turnpike a tarvia road. The early roads were lighted by kerosene lamps and Mr. J. M. Southwick was in charge of all the lamps. When people went to town to buy supplies, they had hitching posts and water troughs as the edge of the main street, Allendale Avenue, for the horses.

Farmers were appointed to take care of the roads if they really wanted to work off taxes. When cars came into circulation they did not widen the roads right away. When they did widen them, they did it by one foot at a time. They then had to make more durable roads for auto traffic. In 1914, they put in cement sidewalks to protect pedestrians.

Today there are 20 town roads and 10 county roads. On snow removal the town bears the expense on town roads, the county on the county roads. The town has to pay \$260. yearly for the electric lighting of its streets, which covers the lighting of the town roads, and the country bears the expense of the county roads.

Allendale has twelve miles of improved tarvia roads. It has one-half a mile of dirt roads. The dirt roads require gravel and cinders. Water pipe and gas pipes for cooking run along the road beds. Mr. John Borger and Mr. John Lothian are on the road committee of the borough council.

(to be continued)

FROM OUR MAILBOX

February 8, 1979...When I was in grammar school in Allendale, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Berdan and Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton were living in a restored lovely old home which was located in the vicinity of where the A & P is now. Both families were very active in the Archer Memorial Methodist Church and Mrs. Berdan had a group of girls meet at her home. I was one--we learned crafts--basket weaving, etc. Mrs. Berdan was very dedicated to the young people. Mrs. Hamilton was Mrs. Berdan's sister.

I know William "Bub" Buhlman, Mae Selfridge, and Russell Mallinson. I knew Bub's father. Mae Selfridge worked at Valley Hospital about 22 years ago when I did some nursing there. And I knew Russell Mallinson's mother, a great lady. I was born in Allendale on Myrtle Avenue. The Rudolphs lived in the house for many years--the house is the 3rd house from Crescent Ave. The Tallmans lived on the corner one time.

My parents bought property in Waldwick and built a home--very near the Allendale border on Crescent Ave. and my brother Earl, sister Florence, and I all attended Allendale school--it was nearer than Waldwick school. We lived not too far from the Hanson family--Bill's sister Florence was my best girlfriend--so that's how long Bill and I have been friends. Florence Hanson married Harry Hart after his first wife died.

Mary Hubbard lives in the Methodist Home in Ocean Grove. Before I went in training I was her assistant in the Archer Memorial Methodist Sunday school (primary dept.). In the Hubbard home on Crescent Avenue the Red Cross conducted a first aid course and home nursing course for the young girls of Allendale. I took the course, and that may have gotten me interested in nursing.

Another family who were interested in youth were the Potters--they lived on Crescent Avenue not far from us. Mrs. Potter formed a group which was called the Girl's Friendly Society. I learned to knit there. There was another great lady who influenced my life greatly--Miss Mallinson (I think her name was Gertrude). I believe she was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Mallinson who lived on Allendale Avenue (I think there is a bank there now). And Anita Van Houten and Ella Appert--both wonderful ladies!

Allendale had a lot of dedicated people when I was growing up and I am happy to be a member of the Allendale Historical Society.

----Grace Slingland Wahlers

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TIME CAPSULES.....95 YEARS AGO IN ALLENDALE

A concert was given by the Sunday School of Archer Chapel last Sabbath evening. The church was beautifully decked with wild flowers.

Hen has turned fisherman. Oradell is his stronghold, and when the fish do not bite, he keeps his eye on an ice cream saloon on the shore.

Al Lydecker has received and unloaded about 60 tons of grain the past week. He is running his mill night and day to supply orders.

Jake Smith rides in a side-bar, behind a 2.40 horse. Both new.

An ice cream festival for the benefit of Archer Chapel is on the bills for Friday evening. ---THE HACKENSACK REPUBLICAN, June 14, 1883.

85 YEARS AGO IN ALLENDALE

The ladies of the guild still meet weekly and make aprons for the millions.

The soda water man who drove the wagon that was wrecked a few weeks ago was in town last Monday. An ugly scar adorns the left side of his face. He thinks himself exceedingly fortunate that he was not killed.

---THE HACKENSACK REPUBLICAN, March 2, 1893.

"FIRST FAMILIES" OF ALLENDALE...Notes on early residents of Allendale
Compiled by Pat Wardell and vicinity

(continued)

Archer, Dr. Harry M.

Son of Oliver Hazard Perry Archer and Mary Dean, he was born in 1868 and died May 17, 1954. By profession an insurance doctor, he was best known as the chief medical officer of the New York Fire Department; later he was made "honorary medical officer" of that city's fire department. It was said that in over 70 years association with the N.Y.C. fire department, his record showed that he missed only one 3-alarm blaze--and that was on his wedding day! He spent his summers in Allendale from his childhood on, and he was instrumental in the formation of Allendale's Fire Department.

Archer, Nellie L.

Daughter of O.H.P. Archer and Mary Dean, she was born about 1861. She died in Allendale on January 2, 1944. She was active in community and church affairs, belonging to the Allendale Club (which in 1887 celebrated her 16th birthday), and to the Thimble Club of Allendale (and its counterpart, the Thimble Club of Brattleboro, Vermont, where she had a summer home). In the early 1930's she was president of the Allendale Auxiliary of the Hackensack Hospital.

Archer, Oliver Hazard Perry

Son of Jonathan and Hannah Archer, he was born in New York City on January 14, 1825. He began in business at the age of 10 as a clerk in a store and by 1847 he was established in the express business. In 1849 he was handling baggage express for the Hudson River R.R. and by 1851 he had established a fast freight line on that railroad as well as the N.Y. Central. He later was elected Vice-President of the Erie Railroad. He and his family spent their summers in Allendale beginning in 1869 when he purchased the property on the southeast corner of the intersection of Allendale Avenue and Franklin Turnpike (now occupied by the Guardian Angel Church). He built the Archer Memorial Methodist Church in 1876 at a cost of \$18,000, built Archer Hall during the 1880's, and in 1893, he renovated and added to the original chapel built in 1876. He married, on June 4, 1845, Mary Dean. O.H.P. Archer died in Allendale on May 8, 1899 and was buried in the family burial plot at Sleepy Hollow Cemetery near Tarrytown.

Arlt, Ernest W.

Son of Max Paul Henry Arlt and Catherine Jane Stagg, he was born October 30, 1895 in Arlington, N.J. He came with his family to Allendale in August 1910. He was an attorney. He served during World War I in the Navy and later was a member of Allendale's American Legion Post 204. He had been, as a boy, a member of the Bergen Guard in Allendale. He was a life member of the Grand Chef's Club of New Jersey. He married Ethel Allen and they had a daughter, Marilyn. Ernest W. Arlt died in September 1974.

Arlt, Max Paul Henry

Son of Frederick William Arlt and Augusta Wohl, he was born in Breslau, Germany on November 3, 1869. He came with his family from Germany to New York (via London) in 1882. He graduated in 1890 from Coleman Business College; in 1915 he organized the American Pharmaceutical Co. and later he began a private legal practice. He married, on November 2, 1893, Catherine Jane Stagg. They had children: Raymond Paul Arlt, Ernest William Arlt, Augusta Arlt (Wagner), Gertrude Arlt (Fox), Blanche A. Arlt (Gee). Max P. Arlt served on

the Allendale Borough Council and as a justice of the peace. He died May 6, 1952 and was buried in the Lodi Cemetery.

Arlt, Raymond Paul

Son of Max P. Arlt and Catherine Jane Stagg, he was born in New York City on July 4, 1894. He came with his family to Allendale in August 1910. He attended Stevens Institute of Technology and entered military service in September 1917, serving a year in France. He was an engineer, and at his retirement in 1959 was Assistant Superintendent of the Inspection-Engineering Dept. of the New York Fire Insurance Rating Organization. He married, in 1920, Felicitas Marie Weiss, and they had children: Raymond William Arlt and Phyllis Lillian Arlt (White). Arlt served as Allendale's Building Inspector and Superintendent of Building Construction from 1925 until 1939, was Borough Clerk in 1931, and served as a Director of the Allendale Building and Loan Association from 1934-1939. Raymond P. Arlt today lives in Santa Barbara, California.

Asten, William B.

Born about 1823, in his youth he was in the milling business in Texas; later he manufactured cotton bags. In 1884 he purchased a house in Allendale from R. B. Cable and he lived in Allendale until his death in July 1905. He had earlier been instrumental in establishing the incorporation of Mount Vernon, N.Y., and one of his most cherished possessions was a silver loving cup presented to him by the people of Mount Vernon.

Asten, William Preston

Son of William P. and Josephine Rose Asten, he was born in New York City on October 18, 1879. He was a civil engineer. He married, in June 1901, Katherine Linthicum. They had five children. William Preston Asten died in August 1937.

Atkins, Arthur

He was secretary of the Allendale Lyceum in 1889.

Atkins, William

Circa 1887-1888, William Atkins purchased from A. C. Rowland the general store situated on what is today's Cottage Place, and Atkins succeeded Rowland in the business. Atkins was, in 1889, a Trustee of School District No. 55, which included present-day Allendale.

Badeau, Dr. Charles W.

Born about 1844, Dr. Badeau and his wife Louise came to Allendale circa 1878, and in 1879 bought a house from Aaron Ackerman (on Franklin Turnpike). They lived in Allendale until about 1901, when they moved to Passaic. Dr. Badeau was a Commissioner of the Allendale Board of Health when the Borough was formed in 1896 and was a trustee of the Orvil Co-Operative Building & Loan Association in 1889.

Banta, Weart (Wiert)

Following the Revolution he lived in the vicinity of what later became Allendale. He is listed in the 1779 Franklin Township Rateables (between John Fell and Jacob Valentine) as owning 50 acres of land and 4 horses and cattle.

Barney, John B.

He lived, in the early 1890's, in Allendale. In 1892, he was appointed to the entertainment committee of the Village Improvement Association.

Barrett, Alonzo C.

From 1906 until 1912, Alonzo C. Barrett ran a livery stable (located on the site of the present-day Central Garage Exxon Station). He

commuted to Newark, where he worked for Clark's O.N.T. Spool Cotton Co. He was married to the former Elizabeth Ivers, daughter of Alfred Ivers. In 1915 the Barrett family moved to Red Bank.

Beaver, Jacob P.

Mr. & Mrs. Beaver lived on West Crescent Avenue in the late 1890's and early 1900's. Mrs. Beaver, who was president of the Ladies' Aid Society of Archer Memorial Methodist Church in 1904, entertained the Young People's Society (in 1898) at her home, which she called "Bit-O-Sweet."

Beckley, Samuel A.

Born about 1832, he married Elizabeth Lewis and they had children: Samuel G. Beckley, George W. Beckley, Evaline Beckley, Emma Beckley, Frank Beckley, William Beckley, Harry Beckley, Robert M. Beckley, and Leonard J. Beckley. Beckley bought, in 1871, a farm of 73 acres from Aaron Ackerman and on it built his home (still standing on the northwest corner of the intersection of Franklin Turnpike and Chestnut street) on the site of the former schoolhouse.

Beckley, Samuel

Son of Samuel A. Beckley and Elizabeth Lewis, he was born about 1858. He married Hattie Southwick and they had a daughter, Marion Beckley. He worked for the New York Life Insurance Co.

Berdan, Elizabeth M. (Mrs. Frank Berdan)

Born in New York City in 1885, she lived in Ridgewood and Wortendyke as a child; later in Paterson, where she was married. The Berdans moved to Allendale about 1920 and lived in the old Garrison house on the site of today's A & P shopping center. The old Dutch barn on the property was said to have dated from before the Revolution. Mrs. Berdan was involved with many county and borough civic groups: she was home demonstration agent for the Bergen County Home Extension Service for 28 years and was a member of the Allendale Garden Club and the Women Gardeners of Ridgewood. She was a founder and charter member of the Bergen County Federation of Garden Clubs. She was a member of both the Allendale and Ridgewood Women's Clubs, and was the original founder and sponsor of the Junior Woman's Club of Allendale (which she served as advisor for 20 years and of which she was an honorary lifetime member). She was one of the founders of the Allendale P.T.A. Mrs. Berdan died in December 1955.

Berdan, Frank

He and his wife moved to Allendale about 1920 where both became involved in local and county civic affairs. He was charter vice-president of the Allendale Garden Club (in 1921) and was a Director of the Orvil Co-Operative Building and Loan Association (later the Allendale Building & Loan Association). He was a Trustee of the Allendale Library Association and served on the Allendale Borough Council. He was very interested in local history and was a member of the Bergen County Historical Society. He wrote a history of Allendale which was published in a souvenir booklet of an Allendale Players production in 1929 (and which was recently reprinted in our newsletter). Mr. Berdan died in December 1951.

Bijou, John C.

Born in New York City on September 15, 1870, he moved to Allendale in April 1907. He was a charter member of the Allendale Fire Association and was a member of the Exempt Firemen's Association (he had served as President at one time). He and his wife, Agnes Hart Bijou, had children: Allan, Arthur, Albert, Walter, and Charles. John C. Bijou died in December 1941.

(to be continued)

TIME CAPSULES.....33 YEARS AGO IN ALLENDALE

V-J DAY HAILED IN ALLENDALE BY FIRE SIREN BLASTS. Allendale heartily welcomed the victory announcement at 7 o'clock Tuesday night, opening the informal celebration with blasts on the fire siren. As residents of the borough received the good news they congregated in the business section to welcome victory with all the noisemakers at their command.

Showers of paper were tossed at passing automobiles and some enterprising individuals resurrected a supply of firecrackers and colored flares.

The bells of the Archer Memorial and the Church of the Epiphany were rung...The fire truck was the nucleus of an impromptu automobile parade through the streets of the borough.

On Wednesday and Thursday the post office was closed all day although incoming and outgoing mail was handled. The bank closed all day Wednesday but reopened this morning.

-----THE RAMSEY JOURNAL, August 16, 1945

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We wish to express special thanks to those who contributed financially and thus helped to make our production of "H.M.S. Pinafore" a success. Reprinted from the program of the production:

New Members

- Mr. & Mrs. James Booths of Allendale
- Ms. Mary A. Edwards of Wyckoff
- Mr. & Mrs. D. O. Quackenbush of Allendale
- Mr. & Mrs. Ernest F. Wahlers of Paramus

Accessions

Xeroxed copy of a history of Allendale as it was in 1869, written by Henry Clay Anthony in 1938. Included in this copy of a handwritten notebook is an account of the Blizzard of 1888, a genealogy of the Anthony family of New York, and a brief account of the Steele family. Donated by Mary Anthony (Henderson) Lathrop.

H.M.S. PINAFORE

PATRONS

- Mr. William B. Buhlman
Citizens First National Bank, Allendale
- Miss Margaret M. Colledge
Country Shop, Allendale
- Dr. and Mrs. Richard W. Holeman
- Mr. and Mrs. Earl G. Holmes, Vermont
- Independence Bank of New Jersey, Allendale
- Mr. and Mrs. Schuyler Keating
- Lucie, Leon and Andrej Kirylak
- Mr. and Mrs. Alfred P. Lange
- Mr. and Mrs. Thomas LaVecchio
- Mrs. Anne M. Lussow, Florida
- Mrs. Estelle Maser
- Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Megnin
- Mrs. Raymond M. Scholz
- Mr. and Mrs. Bradley W. Simmons
- Miss Nancy L. Strangfeld, Ecuador
- Van Houten Realty, Allendale
- Mr. and Mrs. Walter M. Wardell, Jr.
- Miss Maria Woodruff

Refreshments handled by Girl Scouts of Allendale

Allendale Historical Society
P.O. Box 294, Allendale, N.J. 07401

Membership Categories: (Annual Dues)

Family Membership.....	\$5.00
Individual Membership.....	\$3.00

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Editor: Pat Wardell